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McCarthy: Pentagon Has Slipped Hill's Reins

NEW YORK, Dec. 16 (AP)—Sen. Eugene J. McCarthy (D-Minn.) said today that the Defense Department has become "the strongest independent power in world affairs" and has gone beyond "the effective control of the Congress."

Writing in the Saturday Review, McCarthy, a member of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee and unsuccessful candidate for the Democratic presidential nomination, said the Pentagon's influence has grown greater and greater on

our foreign and domestic policies and on our educational institutions.

The militarization of American foreign policy, McCarthy said, "has been evident in recent years in our growing readiness to respond in military terms to problems which may or may not be susceptible to military solutions."

The Senator said the most serious example of that is U.S. involvement in Vietnam.

McCarthy said, "The first part of that assurance is a mil-

itary judgement; the second may be partially a military judgement, but the context in which it was given appeared primarily political. We ought not to concede a political role to the Joint Chiefs so easily."

He said that in his position on the Foreign Relations Committee he had seen "growing evidence of subservience of the State Department and of the Administration to military determination and judgments."

McCarthy cited U.S. Viet-

nam policy and American arms sales as examples of this "subservience."

At home, McCarthy said, the Defense Department wields substantial influence on the economy.

"Sudden surges within the defense sector have contributed to inflation," he said, and defense industries are drawing large numbers of highly skilled personnel away from civilian businesses.

McCarthy also expressed

concern that colleges and universities might "tailor their whole direction" in order to get defense grants.

He said that by establishing draft criteria, the military is, in part at least, influencing students in their selection of courses.

"In this manner," the Senator said, "they are influencing quite directly the whole culture of America and the direction and tone of our national life."